

Provisional Vital Statistics for October 2003

Live births decreased in October as 6,854 Missouri babies were born compared with 7,104 one year earlier. Cumulative births for January-October decreased slightly while births for the 12 months ending with October increased slightly.

Deaths for all three time periods shown below. For the first 10 months of the year, deaths decreased by 5.4 percent from 47,929 to 45,338.

The **Natural increase** for October was 2,533 (6,854 births minus 4,321 deaths). The natural increase rose for all three time periods shown below.

Marriages and Dissolutions of Marriage both decreased for all three time periods shown below. For the 12 months ending with October, there were 41,191 marriages and 22,293 divorces for a marriage to divorce ratio of 1.85 to 1 compared with a ratio of 1.82 one year earlier based on 41,619 marriages and 22,902 divorces.

Infant deaths decreased for all the time periods shown below. For January - October, the infant death rate decreased from 8.7 to 8.2 per 1,000 live births.

PROVISIONAL VITAL STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER, 2003

<u>Item</u>	<u>October</u>				<u>Jan.-Oct. cumulative</u>				<u>12 months ending with October</u>				
	<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		<u>Number</u>		<u>Rate*</u>		
	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Live Births	7,104	6,854	14.7	14.6	64,150	63,673	13.6	13.4	75,987	76,194	13.7	13.4	13.4
Deaths	4,878	4,321	10.1	9.2	47,929	45,338	10.1	9.6	55,939	54,282	9.7	9.9	9.5
Natural increase	2,226	2,533	4.6	5.4	16,221	18,335	3.4	3.9	20,048	21,912	4.0	3.5	3.8
Marriages	4,159	3,921	8.6	8.4	36,279	35,918	7.7	7.6	41,619	41,191	7.5	7.3	7.2
Dissolutions	2,007	1,929	4.2	4.1	18,979	18,679	4.0	3.9	22,902	22,293	4.2	4.0	3.9
Infant deaths	70	55	9.9	8.0	561	520	8.7	8.2	640	620	7.7	8.4	8.1
Population base (in thousands)	...	...	5,674	5,709	...	...	5,674	5,709	...	...	5,630	5,587	5,703

* Rates for live births, deaths, natural increase, marriages and dissolutions are computed on the number per 1000 estimated population. The infant death rate is based on the number of infant deaths per 1000 live births. Rates are adjusted to account for varying lengths of monthly reporting periods.

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